

# Calvine High School

## Write a Biography

A biography is a written account of a person's life, a person currently living or historical, famous or unknown, accomplished or anonymous. Teachers enjoy assigning biographies because they open students' eyes to new eras, new ideas, and new perspectives on life. Students like them for the choices they offer.

### To write a biography you should:

1. Select a person you are interested in
2. Find out the basic facts of the person's life. Start with the encyclopedia (wikipedia) and almanac.
3. Think about what else you would like to know about the person, and what parts of the life you want to write most about. Take notes on a separate sheet of paper before beginning your essay in the following format:
  - a. What makes this person special or interesting?
  - b. What kind of effect did he or she have on the world? other people?
  - c. What are the adjectives<sup>1</sup> you would most use to describe the person?
  - d. What examples from their life illustrate those qualities?
  - e. What events shaped or changed this person's life?
  - f. Did he or she overcome obstacles? Take risks? Get lucky?
  - g. Would the world be better or worse if this person hadn't lived? How and why?
4. Write your essay incorporating the information you've put together from your research. Please refer to school writing rubric for writing instructions.  
<http://www.egusd.k12.ca.us/calvine/Forms/forms.html>

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### Examples

- That is a **big** building.
- I met a very **old** man.
- The **quick, brown** fox jumps over the **lazy** dog.
- Most monkeys are **arboreal** creatures that inhabit **tropical** or **subtropical** areas.
- That's a very **nice** dress you are wearing.